Writing Standards for Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects: Grades 6-8

Text Types and Purposes

1 **Write arguments focused on discipline-specific content.** WHST.6-8.1

- a Introduce claim(s) about a topic or issue, acknowledge and distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and organize the reasons and evidence logically. WHST.6-8.1.A
- b Support claim(s) with logical reasoning and relevant, accurate data and evidence that demonstrate an understanding of the topic or text, using credible sources. WHST.6-8.1.B
- c Use words, phrases, and clauses to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence. WHST.6-8.1.C
- d Establish and maintain a formal style appropriate for the task and audience. WHST.6-8.1.D
- e Provide a concluding statement or section that follows and supports the argument presented. WHST.6-8.1.E

2 **Write informative/explanatory texts, including the narration of historical events, scientific procedures/experiments, or technical processes.** WHST.6-8.2

- a Introduce a topic clearly, previewing what is to follow; organize ideas, concepts, and information into broader categories as appropriate to achieving purpose; include formatting (e.g., headings), graphics (e.g., charts, tables), and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension. WHST.6-8.2.A
- b Develop the topic with relevant, well-chosen facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples. WHST.6-8.2.B
- c Use appropriate and varied transitions to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts. WHST.6-8.2.C
- d Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic. WHST.6-8.2.D
- e Establish and maintain a formal style and objective tone appropriate for the task and audience. WHST.6-8.2.E

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	f Provide a concluding statement or section that follows and supports the information or explanation presented. WHST.6-8.2.F
	3 (See note; not applicable as a separate requirement) WHST.6-8.3
Production and Distribution of Writing	**4 Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.** WHST.6-8.4
	5 With some guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on how well purpose and audience have been addressed. WHST.6-8.5
	6 Use technology to produce and publish writing to interact and collaborate with others through a variety of media to present the relationships between information and ideas efficiently. WHST.6-8.6
Research to Build and Present Knowledge	**7 Conduct short research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question), drawing on several sources and generating additional related, focused questions that allow for multiple avenues of exploration.** WHST.6-8.7
	8 Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, using search terms effectively; assess the credibility and accuracy of each source; and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation. WHST.6-8.8
	9 Draw evidence from informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research. WHST.6-8.9
Range of Writing	**10 Write routinely over extended time frames (time for reflection and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.** WHST.6-8.10